WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A noise determiner for use with a communications system, comprising:

a crosstalk identifier configured to detect directly a noise source in a frequency domain from observed noise associated with said communications system; and

a crosstalk estimator coupled to said crosstalk identifier and configured to provide a corresponding level of said noise source.

2. The noise determiner as recited in Claim 1 wherein said crosstalk identifier considers radio frequency interference.

3. The noise determiner as recited in Claim 1 wherein said crosstalk identifier considers unknown disturbers.

4. The noise determiner as recited in Claim 1 wherein said crosstalk identifier places said noise source into a modeling system selected from the group consisting of:

an American noise model,

an old European Technical Standards Institute (ETSI) noise model, and

a new ETSI noise model.

5. The noise determiner as recited in Claim 1 wherein said noise source has a power spectral density of a form $P_N(f) = g(k)\,P_B(f)$.

6. The noise determiner as recited in Claim 1 wherein said noise source is a noise selected from the group consisting of:

Additive White Gaussian Noise,

Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) Near-End Crosstalk (NEXT),

High Bit-Rate DSL (HDSL) NEXT,

T1 NEXT, and

European Technical Standards Institute (ETSI) defined noise.

7. The noise determiner as recited in Claim 1 wherein said communications system is a digital subscriber line (DSL) system.

8. A method of determining noise in a communications system, comprising:

directly detecting a noise source in a frequency domain from observed noise associated with said communications system; and

providing a corresponding level of said noise source.

9. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said detecting includes considering radio frequency interference.

10. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said detecting includes considering unknown disturbers.

11. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said detecting includes placing said noise source into a modeling system selected from the group consisting of:

an American noise model,

an old European Technical Standards Institute (ETSI) noise model, and

a new ETSI noise model.

12. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said noise source has a power spectral density of a form $P_N(f) = g(k) P_B(f)$.

13. The method as recited in Claim 8 further including selecting said noise source from the group consisting of:

Additive White Gaussian Noise,

Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) Near-End Crosstalk (NEXT),

High Bit-Rate DSL (HDSL) NEXT,

T1 NEXT, and

European Technical Standards Institute (ETSI) defined noise.

14. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said communications system is a digital subscriber line (DSL) system.

15. A digital subscriber line (DSL) modem, comprising:

a front end coupled to a DSL channel;

a transmitter coupled to said front end that processes a digital signal for analog transmission over said channel; and

a receiver coupled to said front end that converts an analog signal received over said channel to a digital signal; and

a noise determiner, including:

a crosstalk identifier that detects directly in a frequency domain a noise source from observed noise associated with said channel; and

a crosstalk estimator coupled to said crosstalk identifier that provides a corresponding level of said noise source.

16. The DSL modem as recited in Claim 15 wherein said crosstalk identifier considers radio frequency interference.

17. The DSL modem as recited in Claim 15 wherein said crosstalk identifier considers unknown disturbers.

18. The DSL modem as recited in Claim 15 wherein said crosstalk identifier places said noise source into a modeling system selected from the group consisting of:

an American noise model,

an old European Technical Standards Institute (ETSI) noise model, and

a new ETSI noise model.

19. The DSL modem as recited in Claim 15 wherein said noise source has a power spectral density of a form $P_N(f) = g(k) P_B(f)$.

20. The DSL modem as recited in Claim 15 wherein said noise source is a noise selected from the group consisting of:

Additive White Gaussian Noise,

Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) Near-End Crosstalk (NEXT),

High Bit-Rate DSL (HDSL) NEXT,

T1 NEXT, and

European Technical Standards Institute (ETSI) defined noises.

21. The DSL modem as recited in Claim 15 wherein said DSL modem is an Asymmetric DSL modem.